

Zone Chair Gerald goes to Houston . . .



Zone 9 Chair Gerald Coombs completed the Lions Clubs International Faculty Development Institute in Houston Texas.

Part of the training included giving presentations to his colleagues. Of the possible topics given, Lion Gerald chose to discuss the multiple purposes of Fundraising Activities. As an example, he used the Mount Pearl Lions Club Santa Claus Parade. He explained that although this event is a Community Service Project, it meets many other goals of both LCI and his home Club:

- **Lions Promotion & Awareness** with a Lions banner leading the parade, Lions in vests, distributing candy along the route, the Lions Hockey Team or Lions Scouting Group carrying the banner, Lion Melvin Club Mascot walking in the parade;
- **Community engagement** with more than 60 parade entries from youth and community groups, churches and businesses and many thousands of spectators, the parade reaches most of the community;
- **Food Collection** of several tons of food for the St Vincent de Paul society, as well as a **financial contribution** of \$5000-\$6000 to the Community Food Sharing Association, including cash from MP Lions Club and spectators, then matched by Scotia Bank.

He noted that this project also covers two areas of the International Centennial Challenge Campaign:

- Youth: bands, cheerleaders, walkers
- Hunger: food and cash to food banks

During his time in Houston, he met many other Lions from Canada and the USA and learned more about teaching Lions programs. He is now ready to

assist the District Global Leadership Team in their pursuit of informing the N-4 Membership about LCI Programs and activities. One area of special interest that he would like to promote is the role of LCIF globally and within our province.



ZC Gerald continued his visits by attending the St. Vincent's Lions Lunch Meeting, Trepassey Lions 42nd Charter Night, Conception Bay South Lions Donation Night, Waterford Hospital Lions Dinner Meeting and Mount Pearl Lions General Business Meeting. He congratulated



CBS Lions on their \$10,750 donations to school meal programs and youth activities and St. Vincent's Lions on their extensive support of community, especially their Fire Department and Memorial Park.

2016-17 Zone 9 Chair Gerald Coombs presented 2015-16 Zone 9 Chair Ches Pike with the Best Zone Chair award for 2015-16.

